Bridging Economic Development and Environmental Protection April 11 -12, 2006

Northwest Indiana Forum Kay Nelson, Director Environmental Affairs

Northwest Indiana Forum

- Non-profit regional economic development organization
- Representing \$40 Billion revenue in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties
- 100+ members including municipalities, small businesses, large corporations, developers and consultants

NWI Forum & NIRPC

- Partnerships are critical!!!
- Development of educational opportunities for public and private sector
- Evolution of Regional Development Authority (RDA), NIRPC, IEDC & Forum relationship

Sustainable economic development and redevelopment is dependent upon:

- Compliance with the law
- An understanding of environmental liability
- Communication with all stakeholders

Northwest Indiana's Brownfields

- Offer the opportunity to increase business expansion and relocation opportunities through their redevelopment
- Some are already listed with realtors while others aren't
- Creating an inventory of acreage currently not for sale but underutilized that provides features such as rail, water or transportation























